

RICHMOND WILL HAVE AUDITORIUM

Various Plans That Have Been Suggested By Various Ones. ACTION NEEDS TO BE TAKEN AT ONCE

Council's Movement Seems to Be Too Slow for Progressive Richmond, and Other Plans Are Under Earnest Discussion.

Battle Abbey Scheme.

In this connection it should not be forgotten that the City Fathers are in favor of an auditorium in the ownership of which the city is to be at least a partner.

It will be remembered that a very liberal appropriation was made, the payment of which has been provided for, to the Confederate Battle Abbey. A condition understood in this appropriation was that the abbey must have a big room, the size of the auditorium, that may be indeed, shall be used as an auditorium. The Battle Abbey is getting along all right, and in due time will be here with its auditorium, but it will not be here this year, or next year either, and next year, when Richmond will need an auditorium of great dimensions.

Richmond must have just such a house for the Ter-Centenary year, even though it be a temporary makeshift. This is the general opinion; this seems to be the mind of Richmond, and the mind of Richmond having been made known, there is nothing to do but build an auditorium.

Third Market Scheme.

Some time ago Mr. Umfau, a strictly business member of the Common Council, offered a resolution providing that, with an expenditure of several thousand dollars, the Third Market, located on Cherry Street, between Linden and Cherry Streets, be converted into an auditorium capable of seating not less than 5,000 people. This proposition was defeated, but it is understood that since the Council met, the plan has been under consideration, and it is believed that it will be adopted.

The company having this magnificent property in hand are sparing no expense to get it into first-class shape to sell to home-seekers. It is one of the choicest properties now on the market.

Farm Lands.

Casselman and Company, the energetic dealers in Virginia farm lands, report a season of remarkable prosperity. They have bought two new teams with which to take prospective purchasers to look at the farms and home sites included in their lists. Not a day passes but that Casselman and Company locate one or more new settlers in Virginia. They come from all parts. The firm is said by many to be doing a fine work for Virginia by inducing a good class of farmers to buy lands in this State.

Dr. Calische's Residence to Be Sold.

The house No. 103 West Grace Street, corner of Ryland, now occupied by Rev. Dr. E. N. Calisch, will be sold at auction on Tuesday evening, the 22d instant, at 6 o'clock. The house is one of the most unique and beautiful residences in Richmond. It is directly opposite the Richmond College and has full view of the campus. It is one of the most desirable residence properties in the city, and the sale will doubtless attract a large crowd of buyers. Henry S. Hugler and Company have charge of the sale.

Rubber Company Election.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) NEW YORK, May 19.—The new board of directors of the United States Rubber Company organized yesterday by re-electing the old officers.

REAL ESTATE AND BUILDING NEWS

Big Transaction in the Negotiation State, and May Culminate This Week.

SUBURBAN PROPERTY ACTIVE

Residence of Dr. Calisch on West Grace for Sale—Building Operations Active.

There is something big going on in real estate circles. No doubt of that; but getting any of the facts for publication is a feat that no newspaper man can accomplish. Real estate men in Richmond have become clams, not only clams with closed mouths, but they are oysters without ears. They will not talk and they will not hear when other folks talk; that is, if the other folks wear the garb of a newspaper man.

This simply means that the transactions of moment of the last week are in the negotiation state. That some of these negotiations are on a very large order, involving many thousands of dollars, is very manifest, but as before stated, the rock bottom facts cannot be obtained. Maybe they will never be. It is possible that the next week there will be several of these negotiations culminating into some of the biggest real estate deals Richmond has known in several years. I believe some of these deals have already been consummated, but particulars withheld, they being strictly confidential. Neither names of buyers, sellers, location of property or purposes for which bought are yet printable, but something big is going on and don't you forget it.

Three lots and residences thereon at West Main and Adams Street, were sold Friday to Mr. E. Raab. Mr. Reuben Burton and Mrs. Clarke were the owners and sellers and the transaction was private and not through agents. The three lots combined measured 101 feet on West Main. There was a rubber tree syndicate had purchased for a theatre syndicate and that it go up at Adams and Main.

Suburbs Are Active.

Suburban properties are active. Ginter Park is selling steadily and more prospective buyers are now interested in this beautiful property than ever before. Plans for building several residences are on the boards and the company have in mind the erection of several modern homes which will be offered for sale.

Highland Park lots are active. Manager McCormick says there is no let up in the market for Highland Park lots or in the new buildings that are going up and are planned for in this charming suburb.

The Highland Park Company are getting plans for cottages to sell to home-seekers, and, taken altogether, the outlook has never been brighter for this beautiful addition to Richmond's suburban colonies.

Boulevard Park shows a steady advance. Many lots have been sold to investors who have in turn re-sold at a profit, and quite a number of lots have gone to parties who intend to build. Bellevue Park, while not yet on the open market, is being plotted and the plans will be complete and in shape for announcement in a short time.

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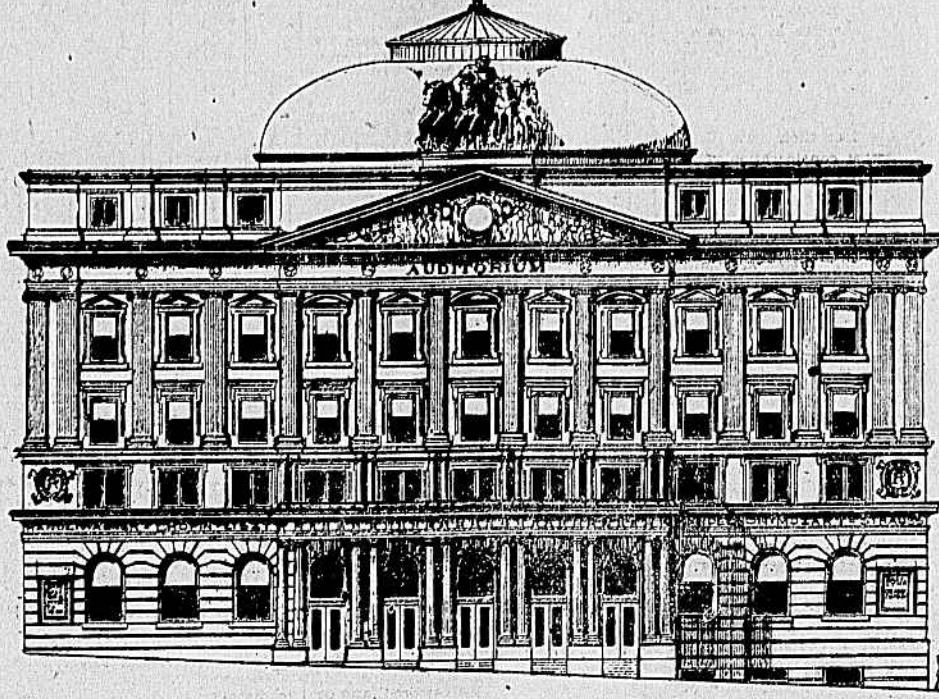
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DESIGN FOR AUDITORIUM WHICH MAY BE ERECTED AT CORNER OF SIXTH AND MAIN



FRANKLIN IS A THRIVING TOWN

Business Center of a Large and Prosperous Agricultural Section.

PEANUTS IMPORTANT ITEM

Special Inducements Held Out to Those Seeking Manufacturing Sites.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

FRANKLIN, VA., May 19.—Franklin is a thriving town and splendid manufacturing sites are located here, each one doing a profitable business.

The pretty little city is built just on the banks of the picturesque Black Water River. Great strides are being made in the way of making Franklin a great commercial and manufacturing city of Eastern Virginia, and progress is being made in competition with other and larger firms. There are special inducements in the way of desirable locations held out to those who are seeking manufacturing sites and establishments that mean good for the public.

The inference that Franklin would be a splendid manufacturing site is sustained by the fact that there are already numerous factories here and others in course of erection, such as peanut factories; saw mills and planing mills; carriage and buggy factory; iron foundry, electric light plant, and other different industries which make a town.

Franklin is blessed with a great gift from nature; namely, good water. Artesian wells are plentiful all over the town and give forth the best drinking water that can be had anywhere.

Franklin is situated on the line of the Seaboard Air Line Railroad and the Southern Railway, and the Black Water River is navigable up to this point, which affords transfer of freight from this point and points along the above named railroads to Eastern North Carolina.

The officers of the town are: Mayor, R. E. L. Watkins; Councilmen, C. C. Vaughan, Jr., President; C. W. Gary, Jr., C. Camp, J. R. Knight, A. W. Hayes and I. E. Howell; Sergeant, C. A. Bell.

Franklin is the recognized market for one of the most prosperous sections in this part of Virginia. Many beautiful Southern homes dot the roads leading out in various directions from the town. The farmers are prosperous and progressive men—who send their sons and daughters

to college—and who have homes of culture and refinement.

Three prominent factors in Franklin's business world are The Franklin Peanut Company, The Virginia Peanut Company, and The Prolow Peanut Company, all peanut cleaners. The Virginia Peanut Company was the first to start in the business and was first managed by Mr. C. C. Vaughan, Sr., who sold out to Mr. James M. Story, the present manager. The Prolow Peanut Company was next organized and is run by Mr. A. Prolow, who is a stockholder in the Merchants and Farmers Bank here, and other business enterprises. The Franklin Peanut Company started business last year. Mr. James I. Beale, who has been connected with the peanut business for many years, heads the firm. All three concerns have their factories on the line of the Seaboard Air Line Railway, affording them the best shipping facilities of the kind.

The success of the two banks of this place has been good from the first. Vaughan and Company, a private institution, was established in the year 1886, with C. C. Vaughan, Sr., president and C. C. Vaughan, Jr., cashier. They have \$20,000 paid up capital, a surplus of \$70,000 and undivided profits of about \$15,000. It is the oldest institution of its kind in Southampton county. Their business is not by any means confined to this county or surrounding counties in Virginia, but they do a large business in Eastern North Carolina, as well as Colonel C. C. Vaughan, Jr., is commander of the Seventy-first Virginia Regiment; secretary of Cape Fear Lumber Company, at Wilmington, N. C.; president of the Homestead Fire Insurance Corporation, at this place, and holds a number of other important positions. The Merchants and Farmers Bank was organized to do business on March 1, 1903, with Hon. J. D. Prolow, president. Their statement made April 8, 1904, shows capital, \$75,000; surplus, \$18,000; undivided profits, \$23,753.23; deposits, \$125,107.78; due to banks, \$93,800; loans, \$21,200.91. Mr. Prolow has since died and Mr. W. H. Moore was made president. Mr. E. Frank Story, vice-president; John D. Abiliff, cashier and H. T. Hederick, assistant cashier.

The churches of the town are very handsome and commodious for the size of the town.

The great pride of Franklin is and has always been its schools. The Franklin Military Academy has an enrollment of about eighty students from different parts of Virginia and North Carolina. Its teachers and instructors are of the best. The principal is a graduate of Richmond College, and his assistants are, respectively, Major Harry Carlton, a full graduate of the Virginia Military Institute, who is commandant and has charge of the military branch of the school, and Professor Berryman G. Betty, a full graduate of Randolph-Macon College.

The Franklin Female Seminary has for its president, Professor John B. Brewer, of North Carolina. All of his assistants are lady instructors. About one hundred and fifty students are enrolled for this year. It being the largest number since

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

UNITE LIBRARY AND AUDITORIUM

Mr. Evans Suggests Plan for Combining Two Institutions, Reducing Cost of Each.

HOMESTEAD HAS TRIED IT

Thriving Pennsylvania City Secured Auditorium As Well As Carnegie Library.

The question of a public library for Richmond has reached that state where the people realize their needs. It is now only a question of the means by which the library should be procured.

Carnegie, when he offered the city two hundred thousand dollars for a public library, was inspired by motives entirely foreign to those which have been attributed to him by some persons. He said at the opening of one of his libraries, "My own personal experience may have led me to value a free library beyond all other forms of benevolence. When I was a boy in Pittsburgh, Colonel Anderson, of Allegheny—a name I can never speak without feelings of devotion—opened a little library of four hundred books, to boys every Saturday afternoon. He was himself in attendance at his house to exchange books. No one but he who has felt it can know the anxious longing with which the arrival of Saturday was awaited, that a new book might be had. My brother and Mr. Philip, who have been my principal business partners through life, shared with me Colonel Anderson's generous spirit, and it was when revelling in these treasures that I resolved that, if ever wealth came to me it would be used to establish free libraries, that other poor boys might receive opportunities similar to those for which we are indebted to that noble man."

In fulfillment of this boyhood resolution there are to-day seventeen hundred Carnegie libraries distributed through every English-speaking country in the world. Some forty to fifty millions of dollars have been devoted to this cause, and a power for education, has been loosed which is now benefiting twenty-five million people. No individual has ever contributed so much to a single cause, or benefited so many. With it all

(Continued on Fifth Page.)

COURTHOUSE OF SMYTH COUNTY

A Splendid Edifice Just Completed in Town of Marion.

AN INDEX OF PROSPERITY

The Old Building Removed to Make Place for the New Erected in 1832.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

MARION, VA., May 19.—An evidence of the continuing prosperity of the great Southwest and of Smyth county in particular, is shown in the new courthouse recently completed in Marion. The old building, on the site of which the new now stands, on a beautiful square on Main Street, near the center of the town, was erected in 1832, and had long been out of keeping with the progressive spirit which, especially during recent years, has marked this section of the State.

This was the same year in which Smyth county was organized, being formed out of parts of Wythe and Washington counties by act of the General Assembly on the 23d of February. Robert Beale was the first clerk of the county, and Charles Tate was commissioned as sheriff by Governor John Floyd. The Commonwealth's attorney, was Charles E. Harrison. The first court for the county was held on the 15th day of April, 1832, at the home of John Thomas, at the Royal Oak, about one mile and a half east of the present courthouse site.

The gentlemen justices who held this first court, were Samuel Williams, Geo. W. Davis, Henry R. Thompson, Thompson Atkins, Abram B. Trigg, and Isaac Spratt, many of whose descendants have been well known in the later history of the county. The lawyers licensed to practice before the court were John H. Fulton, David McCormac, John Foster, Isaac J. Lettwich, Charles E. Harrison and Andrew S. Fulton.

The first merchants' license granted in the county was given at this time of the court to William H. Spiller, who afterwards became the wealthiest merchant in Southwest Virginia. The grand jury first formed brought in only five indictments, all being for assault. These were evidently fighting days. The following fines were fixed by the court to be charged on delinquents throughout the county: Spirituous liquors, per half-pint, 12-1/2 cents; French brandy, 25 cents; Jamaica spirits, 25 cents; diets 25 cents; lodging, 12-1/2 cents; grain, per gallon, 12-1/2 cents. To-day spirituous liquors are sold at no point in county.

As there was no town of any size in the county, commissioners were appointed to select a site for the county seat. They were William Price, Thomas Peery, Jno. H. Fulton and Samuel McClellan. After viewing various locations advocated by differing factions, these commissioners finally selected the land of William Humes in the brand valley of the Holston and the town of Marion, now a thriving city of 2,000 people, was laid off. The site chosen for the courthouse was then a wheat field, and the larger part of the present town was in forest.

The courthouse and jail were built by John Dameron and Thomas W. Mercer, contractors of Jonesboro, Tenn., the contract price of the entire work, including the fencing of the lot, being \$7,500.00. The building was of brick and native wood and stood well the storms of seventy-four years. It was in good condition in the time of its removal last year, and every part of the brick and timber contained in it were utilized in the new building.

The financial condition of Smyth county, under the largely increased values of taxable property, well justified the expenditure necessary for the new and enlarged building for county and court purposes, and the Board of Supervisors, last year, on their initiative and under the solicitations of the leading citizens of the county, determined that the time for action was at hand. Notwithstanding the fact that considerable opposition to the project arose on the part of a few timorous individuals who feared an increase of taxation, bonds of the county for \$50,000.00 were issued and sold in the market for \$50,916.00.

Bids were immediately advertised for (Continued on Fourth Page.)

RICHMOND GREAT IN HAT BUSINESS

Forty Richmond Traveling Men Sell Hats In Ten States.

RAPID GROWTH IN TEN YEARS

This City is Gateway to the South, and Sells Millions of Dollars' Worth of Headgear—The Business is Steadily Increasing.

Richmond's advantages as a distributing point for the whole South are not confined to any one line of business. The quick railway connections and the water rate advantages are just as favorable to one line of business as another, and the result is that all classes of wholesale business are growing from year to year at a prodigious rate. One would hardly believe it unless the figures were made plain, but it can be demonstrated that Richmond has made within the past ten years more rapid strides in its wholesaling business than any city in the country. As the true gateway to the South it is invading territory that for many long years was supposed to be exclusively the selling ground of Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York.

Richmond to-day sells more goods to the retail merchants of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia than does any other city. In addition it divides the trade with other markets in Tennessee, West Virginia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, and invades parts of Maryland, Ohio and Kentucky, and even more distant States.

Shows Great Increase.

Perhaps no business has shown greater increase within the past decade than that of the wholesale hat trade. The fact is that up to about ten or a dozen years ago the hats that were wholesale from Richmond were sold by houses engaged in other lines. For instance, wholesale dry goods houses carried a small line of hats, but something more than a decade ago the hat business became distinctive and the dry goods men and the grocers were willing enough to give up the business to the pioneers who established houses to the exclusive sale of hats at wholesale.

There are two houses in Richmond that deal exclusively in hats at wholesale, to-wit: The Etchison Hat Company, Incorporated, and T. D. Stokes & Company. These are active and up-to-date business houses that have pushed their business into eight or ten States and they have given Richmond a reputation as a wholesale center that is not only good business for them, but a splendid advertisement for other branches of business.

Not less than forty experienced traveling men represent these two houses in the South and their annual sales run up into the millions. These travelers cover the territory thoroughly and their efforts have not only increased the business of their houses from year to year, but have convinced the retailers that Richmond is the place to buy hats, and they require in their business right here in Richmond.

What these men have done in the hat business can be done in other lines and has been done in other lines and Richmond's advantages prove that Richmond's advantages prove that Richmond is the greatest of the wholesale centers of the new South.

OUR GRAINING TRADE WITH BRITISH AUSTRALASIA

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) WASHINGTON, D. C., May 19.—Trade between the United States and British Australasia in the fiscal year 1905 aggregated thirty-eight million dollars, against thirty-four and a half millions in the preceding year, thirty-two millions in 1900, and fourteen millions in 1895. Statistics compiled by the Department of Commerce and Labor through its Bureau of Statistics show that imports from British Australasia has grown from four and two-third million dollars in 1895 to twelve millions in 1905, and exports thereto in the same period from nine millions to twenty-six millions. For nine months of the present fiscal year the exports are about two millions in excess of the same months of last year.

Demand for Horsehair in Bavaria

Consul-General William E. Wright, of Munich, is informed by a large dealer in that city that there is a great scarcity in the supply of horsehair in Bavaria, and that this would be a good opportunity for American exporters to gain a footing on the German market. Horsehair has already been received from South America and Russia, but the demand is far from being covered.

It would be advisable for American exporters to communicate direct with the firm of J. L. Hoyer, of Munich, which is the most important concern in the district handling raw horsehair.

Patents to Virginians.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) WASHINGTON, D. C., May 19.—Messrs. Davis and Davis, Washington patent attorneys, report the grant this week to citizens of this State of the following patents: Thomas D. Comer, assignor of one-half to W. A. Cardin, of Norton, for a device for splitting stone. James F. Capps, of Albemarle, for a device for splitting stone. Frank McManus, of South Norfolk, for a clothes line support. Paul G. Blanford, of Portsmouth, for a design for badge.



THE SPLENDID NEW SMYTH COUNTY COURTHOUSE. DESIGNED BY FRANK P. MILBURN, ARCHITECT.